

Kindly cancel claims 1-35 and substitute therefore the following new set of claims.

40. The applicator of claim 36, wherein the applicator includes a handle operatively connected to the head.

41. The applicator of claim 36, wherein the member comprises a sheet having a plurality of microprotrusions extending from a skin proximal surface or edge thereof.

42. The applicator of claim 36, wherein the microprotrusions are adapted to pierce the skin to a depth of up to about 500 μm .

43. The applicator of Claim 36, wherein the surface has a shape which approximates a curved or convex shape.

44. The applicator of Claim 43, wherein the surface has a frustum shape.

45. A method of piercing skin with a plurality of microprotrusions, comprising providing a member having a plurality of skin piercing microprotrusions extending from a body proximal surface or edge thereof, applying a skin-piercing force to a skin distal side or edge of the member with a head, the head having a surface adapted to engage the member, the surface having a shape selected from the group consisting of convex, curved and cylindrical.

46. The method of claim 45, wherein the surface has a convex shape.

47. The method of claim 45, wherein the surface has a radius of curvature of greater than about 5 cm.

48. The method of claim 45, wherein the surface has a radius of curvature of greater than about 10 cm.

49. The method of claim 45, wherein the head impacts the member against the skin.